

# Center for Biopolymers at Interfaces Distinguished Center

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Established as a center in 1986 to increase knowledge and understanding of the interaction of proteins, nucleic acids, and cells with synthetic surfaces. This mission is important to the development of artificial organs and implants, production of contact lenses and diagnostic devices, and for biotechnological process development. Received Distinguished Center status in 1991.

Overview	Technologies	Status	Economic Impact
<p>1994-95 State Contract 0</p> <p>1994 Matching Funds \$1,750,588</p> <p>Cumulative \$8,536,731</p> <p>Center Related Jobs 40</p> <p>Industry Jobs Created 10</p> <p>Benefiting Utah Companies: 1994 Spin-off Companies 0 Cum. Spin-off Companies 2 Patents Applied 2 Patents Issued 11 License Agreements 8</p>	<p>• A large effort is devoted to the development of methods for monitoring the status (concentration/activity) of proteins absorbed or bound to surfaces.</p> <p>• In addition to providing general insight into the surface composition and biocompatibility of implant materials, these methods are developed for such special tasks as the construction of biosensors and the evaluation of wear regimes for contact lenses of different composition.</p> <p>• A separate line of technology involves the analysis of particle sizes and size distributions in the colloidal range. This capability is extended to the analysis and quality control of emulsions and similar pharmaceutical products.</p>	<p>• As a Distinguished Center of Excellence, the CBI received funding for the development and marketing of specific technologies which resulted in last year's formation of a spin-off company, HCP Diagnostics. Their product line is immunosensors targeting the point-of-care testing market.</p> <p>• Efforts to commercialize this technology have been intense.</p> <p>• The search for a strategic partner has led to the identification of five well-established corporation with an expressed interest in a partnership with HCP Diagnostics.</p> <p>• Center faculty will be actively involved in the running of next summer's 69th ACS Colloid and Surface Science Symposium.</p> <p>• The Center made 10 new patent disclosures during the period.</p>	<p>• Contracts with CIBA Vision, industrial fellowships, industrial membership dues, industrial service fees, NIH Biotech Training Grant, NIH grants to CBI faculty, NSF grants to CBI faculty, including instrumentation support, significant fraction of the \$19.8 million allocated from Federal sources for the Biomedical Polymers Building.</p>